UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

In Re:

CASES UNDER CHAPTER 13 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE

Conforming Time Computation Amendment, Effective 12/1/09

GENERAL ORDER RELATING TO MOTIONS FOR RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY; AND REQUIRING THE FILING OF CHAPTER 13 DEBTOR'S CERTIFICATION IN OPPOSITION TO CREDITOR'S MOTION OR CERTIFICATION OF DEFAULT AND RELATED FORMS

A proposal for an Order of the Court resolving certain payment dispute issues commonly arising in cases under Chapter 13 of the Bankruptcy Code having been reviewed by the Court, and the Court having considered the benefit to the bench, bar, and parties in interest, and good cause having been shown;

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. No appearances will be required for *uncontested* Chapter 13 Motions relating to the automatic stay. This procedural transition contemplates amendment to *D.N.J. LBR 4001-1*, *Automatic Stay-Relief From*, pending approval of Local Bankruptcy Rule Amendments by the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey pursuant to the Court's Annual Rule Making Cycle for the year 2005.
- 2. A new form entitled *Chapter 13 Debtor's Certification in Opposition to Creditor's Motion or Certification of Default* (attached as *Exhibit A*) must be filed with the Court and served upon the creditor and the Standing Chapter 13 Trustee, at least seven (7) days before the return date, pursuant to *DNJ LBR 9013-1(d), Motion Practice*, if filed in opposition to a *Motion for Relief from the Automatic Stay*; and within 14 days of the filing of a *Creditor's Certification of Default*

under an *Order Resolving Motion to Vacate Stay and/or Dismiss with Conditions*. Absent the filing of this mandatory new form, the creditor's stay relief motion will be deemed uncontested, and the creditor's appearance at the hearing will *not* be required.

- 3. Local Forms 16 (Post Petition Payment History On Note and Mortgage) or 16A (Post Petition Payment History on Vehicle Loan/Lease) must be filed by secured creditors in conjunction with the filing of a *Creditor's Certification of Default*.
- 4. Secured creditors shall be required to accept debtors' post petition payments, and to apply those payments to debtors' accounts; any such acceptance shall be without any prejudice to, waiver of, or estoppel as to the position of secured creditors in disputes with debtors, including payment and accounting disputes.
- 5. A new form entitled *Joint Scheduling Order Regarding Dispute On Motion for Relief From the Automatic Stay*, may be entered upon consent of the parties requiring the exchange of payment records before the hearing, on the terms and conditions set forth therein.
- 6. The establishment on the Court's website www.njb.uscourts.gov, of a new Creditor Address Database for purposes of forwarding post petition payments is approved, subject to timely implementation of this Database subsequent to the effective date of this General Order.
- 7. This General Order as amended becomes effective April 15, 2005, upon which date, the above referenced procedural transitions are to be implemented; use of Local Forms 16, or 16A in conjunction with a *Creditor's Certification of Default* is to become mandatory; as is use of the new mandatory form *Chapter 13 Debtor's Certification In Opposition to Creditor's Motion*.

8. Notice to the Bar of this Order as amended April 15, 2005, shall be provided on the

Court's website: www.njb.uscourts.gov.

Dated: November 25, 2009 /s/ Judith H. Wizmur

Judith H. Wizmur, Chief Judge United States Bankruptcy Court District of New Jersey